

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PEDRO IRIARTE BORJA

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Pedro Iriarte Borja, the former mayor of the municipality of Chalan Pago-Ordot in Guam. Mayor Borja passed away on May 31, 2014 at the age of 85.

Pedro Iriarte Borja was born on July 1, 1928 to Francisco Borja Borja and Ana Benavente Iriarte Borja. Affectionately known as "Pete," he married Maria Crisostomo Arceo, his wife of 62 years, on July 7, 1951 and together they had seven children.

Pedro Borja was elected mayor of Chalan Pago-Ordot in November of 2004 and served from 2005 to 2009. During his term, Mayor Borja made significant improvements in the community. He oversaw the restoration of the Jose Atoigue Park and erected monuments to honor fallen servicemembers from Chalan Pago-Ordot.

Prior to his term as mayor, Pete Borja attended the Territorial College of Guam, which subsequently became the University of Guam, where he served as Student Body President. He then joined the United States Navy and served in the Korean War. He was honorably discharged in 1956, and subsequently returned to Guam.

After his service in the Navy, Pete worked at the Navy Public Works Center (PWC), Ship Repair Facility (SRF), U.S. Post Office, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). In 1967, he joined the Military Sealift Merchant Marines. He retired as a civil servant after 30 years.

Following his civil service, Mayor Borja remained an active member of our community. He was instrumental to developing and supporting activities for senior citizens of Ordot. His advocacy was key to developing the Ordot Community Advancement Association (OCAA) Bingo operations, which helped to raise funds for the San Juan Bautista Catholic Church. He was also the Director of Tita's Day Care, his wife's daycare business.

Mayor Borja served as the President of the Korean War Veterans Association and was recognized as Veteran of the Year in 2011. He was also an active member of the Guam Caregiver's Association and served as the organization's treasurer.

Mayor Borja was a dedicated public servant and leader who worked to help others in our community. I am deeply saddened by his passing, and I join the people of Guam in mourning a great veteran and public servant. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. Though he will be missed, his legacy will live on in the memories of the people of Guam.

### TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RE- LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA- TIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2014*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4745) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chair, while I extend my appreciation to Chairman LATHAM and Ranking Member PASTOR for their hard work on the FY15 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill, unfortunately, it is another example of the inadequacy of the FY15 budget allocation, and I regretfully rise in opposition.

The bill before us fails to address our nation's growing infrastructure and transportation needs, and the critical housing needs of the most vulnerable among us.

On paper, it looks like the THUD allocation is nearly \$1.2 billion higher than last year. But as we've heard, due to a discrepancy in FHA receipt estimates, this bill is actually \$1.8 billion lower than the FY 2014 bill.

This means that funding for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grants falls \$20 million short of what is required to prevent vulnerable residents from being evicted from their current housing. It also means federal efforts to end chronic homelessness by 2016 will be stalled, despite evidence homeless assistance grants have contributed to a significant drop in the number of homeless people with serious disabilities and mental illness.

In addition, this bill does nothing to restore the 40,000 Section 8 Housing Choice vouchers eliminated by sequester cuts. Yet the demand for affordable housing is acute. In Los Angeles County alone, at least 490,340 more affordable housing units are needed to ease the housing burden on the county's poorest residents.

Furthermore, this bill cuts funding for the public housing capital fund by \$100 million to \$1.775 billion, which is a level not seen since the 1980s. These cuts add to the already chronic capital underfunding of deteriorating public housing and the living conditions of the more than one million families who live in public housing.

Unfortunately, the FY15 THUD bill also significantly underfunds critical transportation and infrastructure programs.

The bill cuts the funding for the TIGER Grant Program by 83 percent. That's a \$500 million cut to a crucial tool for investing in our nation's deteriorating transportation infrastructure. Without robust funding for Tiger Grants, many critical transportation projects will go unfunded and infrastructure needs will be unmet.

The Federal Transit Authority's Capital Investment Grant Program is cut by \$252 million. The program funds projects that create jobs and encourages future growth and sustainability for my district and for cities across the country. Unfortunately these cuts will severely limit investments in new projects and have a detrimental effect on current projects and jobs.

Amtrak's capital grants program is cut by \$200 million. This will impact both current and future projects. People rely on Amtrak to commute to work, shop, visit family and friends and travel to other cities. These cuts to critical infrastructure investments will leave my constituents and thousands of transit dependent Americans with limited and unreliable transportation.

Transit research is cut by \$28 million, or 65 percent. This is unacceptable and must be fixed. We have now learned that there has been a significant human contribution to climate change, and without more reliable and accessible public transportation, we will never be able to combat this very real and very serious problem which will negatively affect many generations to come.

Mr. Chair, this bill is grossly underfunded in almost every regard. The programs that meet the most critical needs in our country have been stripped to unacceptably low levels. I urge my colleagues to support the people and communities who need these programs the most, and vote no on the FY15 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill.

### HONORING AYRIS EVANS GRANBY

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, few professions are as rewarding, or demanding, as nursing. Ayris Evans Granby knew that this was her calling from a young age, and has worked diligently to establish herself as one of the leading practitioners in her community.

Ayris, the third of nine children, was born and raised in New York. Her dream finally came true, when she was accepted into the Harlem Hospital School of Nursing. Her passion later led her to teach nursing, including as an instructor and the chair of the Central School of Practical Nursing where she was instrumental in developing a curriculum that trained nurses' aides to be practical nurses. She later became the Assistant Director of Nursing at her alma mater, the Harlem Hospital School of Nursing.

Ayris has also served as the Associate Director of Nursing, Acting Director, before rising to Associate Executive Director for Hospital Administration. As the Associate Executive Director for Hospital Administration, Ayris was responsible for the development and implementation of key programs at Harlem Hospital,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

such as credentialing for all professional nurses working in enhanced roles.

Ayris was appointed as a nursing consultant for the New York State Department of Health after she left Harlem Hospital. She served for five years before returning to the private sector as the Director of Nursing for a nursing home. In addition, Ayris has assisted a number of undergraduate students from several colleges and universities secure field placements throughout the years. The Division of Health Care Administration and Planning, Meharry Medical College, Fisk University, Herbert H. Lehman College, Rutgers University, and Livingstone College are among the colleges and governmental agencies that have recognized her for her work. She also won the "Pierre Toussaint Medallion" from the New York Archdiocese for Community Service.

Ayris is married to her high school sweetheart, Samuel Granby, Jr., and the pair is blessed with two children. Ayris and Samuel founded Granby's Funeral Service, Inc., together, and as their business grew, so did their commitment to the community. The pair developed a scholarship program to provide financial assistance to college-bound students and those seeking to attend a vocational school.

The Friends of the United Negro College Fund Choir, the Board of Directors of the Crawford Community Day Care Center are among the groups where Ayris so generously and selflessly donates her time. She's also volunteered as a workshop leader and instructor for the Community Service Society of New York, where she advised community residents of their rights and responsibilities in Medicaid health programs.

Ayris Evans Granby is truly a remarkable woman who has done much to enrich the lives of others. It is my sincere wish that her legacy continues to inspire others.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF ROSS  
CHADWICK

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated service of Chief Ross Chadwick of the Denton Fire Department. After more than 40 years in public service, Chief Chadwick's illustrious career is coming to an end.

Ross Chadwick started his 43-year fire service career in southern California, where he rose through the ranks to Fire Chief. After 25 years in California, including 12 as chief, he relocated to Texas and took the helm as Fire Chief in Denton, Texas where he has served for the last 18 years. His commitment to excellence has led him to attain bachelor's degrees in Fire Science and Public Administration, and a Masters in Public Administration. He served as a Firefighter Association President for several years as well as their lead negotiator in collective bargaining.

The Denton Fire Department's fine reputation is a reflection of the dedicated, ethical supervision of Chief Chadwick. His professional legacy will continue to benefit the citizens and businesses of Denton for years to come. I join his colleagues and the community in com-

mending Denton Fire Chief Ross Chadwick for his sterling record and extend best wishes upon his retirement. It is my privilege to represent the City of Denton in the U.S. House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING BARBARA CORKER  
FOR HER SERVICE AS THE NEW  
YORK DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT  
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Barbara Corker in recognition of her year of service as the New York Department President of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Barbara Corker is a truly remarkable person. Barbara has been a member of the Throggs Neck Memorial Unit #1456, Bronx County for 35 years through the eligibility of her late father, George Farrell who served in the United States Army during WWII. Over these many years, she has worked tirelessly on behalf of veterans and their families throughout New York State. She served as First District President three times before serving as Department First, Second and Third Vice President. In 2009, as a member of the Throggs Neck Memorial Unit #1456, she was awarded the National Award for National Security for Best Overall National Security Program activities in the Eastern Division. In 2011, Barbara was awarded the National Award for Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation for Best Overall VA&R Program in the Eastern Division.

This past year, Barbara has focused her energy on Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW). OCW is a program dedicated to meeting the needs of wounded, injured or ill military personnel by providing them with comfort items not usually supplied by the government. Like President Corker's personal motto, OCW was built on Love, Loyalty and Friendship. Under her guidance, Operation Comfort Warriors has raised \$50,000 so far, and is expected to continue growing.

Barbara truly exemplifies the American Legion Auxiliary's motto of "Service, Not Self". She has served as Department Chairman for Cancer Awareness, Children & Youth and Membership. Barbara is a Certified Leadership Instructor. She has served as a housemother for the Empire Girls State Program and has been an instructor at the American Legion Auxiliary College. Her lifelong commitment to improve and support the lives of others, particularly those who have served our great country, reflects the best of our citizenry.

Mr. Speaker, I join with her family, friends and Auxiliary members in celebrating Barbara Corker for her selfless contributions, leadership and accomplishments serving our veterans.

HONORING MOTHERS AGAINST  
DRUNK DRIVING NATIONAL  
PRESIDENT JAN WITHERS

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent and the National President of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Jan Withers, who this December will complete a three and a half year term as President of MADD, the Nation's leading voice against drunk driving.

Ms. Withers joined MADD in 1992, after her 15-year-old daughter, Alisa Joy, was killed by an underage drinker who chose to drive after consuming numerous alcoholic beverages. She first volunteered by sharing her story and lobbying for tougher legislation to help stop this preventable violent crime. In Maryland and across the country, Withers actively campaigned to lower the legal limit of blood alcohol content for drivers from 0.10 BAC to 0.08 BAC, and had the privilege to be present in the Oval Office when President Clinton signed that change into law in 2000.

With all of the work she has done at the State and national level, her passion remains providing support for other victims and survivors of this violent crime. Before becoming National President in July 2011, Ms. Withers served as a victim's advocate for MADD Maryland, facilitating a support group for victims and participating in the MADD Maryland Operations Council. She joined the MADD National Board of Directors in 2005 and has served on numerous committees, including Communications and Branding, Public Policy, and Victim Services.

During her tenure as National President, Ms. Withers has traveled the country and walked the halls of Congress speaking to lawmakers about MADD's Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving, supporting the survivors of this violent crime, and preventing underage drinking. In large part because of her efforts, the recent highway reauthorization bill fully codified MADD's campaign by funding DUI crackdowns, creating an ignition interlock incentive grant program, and authorizing the Driver Alcohol Detection System for Safety—or DADSS program. We are all hopeful that these three initiatives will lead to a reduction and the eventual elimination of drunk driving in America.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Ms. Withers, thousands of lives have been saved and countless victims of this crime assisted. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service of MADD National President Jan Withers.

RECOGNIZING MR. SCOTT  
MCKENZIE

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize a Central Floridian, Mr. Scott McKenzie, an Advanced Placement teacher at East Ridge High School, for being selected as a member of the inaugural class of AP Advocacy Fellows.

The AP Advocacy Fellowship Program engages exceptional AP teachers who ensure that every student is provided access to opportunity. As part of the program, fellows participate in professional development training that focuses on media communication, government relations, and relevant state and federal legislation.

In this global economy, our economic prosperity depends on our ability to train a high-wage, high-tech workforce able to compete with countries around the world. In order to achieve these goals, we must build an education system that not only works to solve today's problems but also focuses on our nation's long term competitiveness.

It is a privilege to recognize Mr. McKenzie for his demonstrated excellence in education, and I thank him for his commitment to the students of Central Florida.

#### HONORING THE MANOR CLUB ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, for 100 years The Manor Club in Pelham Manor, has fostered friendship among women in Pelham and its surrounding communities. Originally formed as a men's social club in 1882, The Manor Club has since become a women's club and is now the oldest one in Westchester County.

When new members enter the front door, they are not welcomed by strangers, but by women who will become their friends.

The spirit of friendship is at the core of The Manor Club's mission. The Manor Club has over 300 members from all walks of life, and prides itself as a place where new friendships are formed, and old ones are renewed.

The Manor Club has hosted many famous artists, writers, political leaders and leading experts in their respective fields to present their work at The Manor Club. Many of the Club's programs are open to the public.

The Manor Club is truly a venue for all. I congratulate them on their 100 years of friendship and service in the Pelham Manor community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing The Manor Club of Pelham Manor for their legacy of camaraderie, and their many contributions to their members and community.

#### TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RE- LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA- TIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2014*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4745) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development,

and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to the House FY15 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill. Today's bill lands with the same sound as its abbreviation . . . THUD.

While I appreciate the hard work of Chairman LATHAM, Ranking Member PASTOR, and their dedicated Appropriations staff, our insufficient 302(b) allocation, made worse with lower than expected FHA and Ginnie Mae receipts, makes this bill's funding levels unacceptable. Simply put, the House bill would make sustaining and improving our nation's infrastructure impossible, a task made more difficult by years and years of deferred maintenance.

On the transportation side, the bill makes deep cuts to the capital programs and job creating infrastructure investments. Amtrak is cut by \$200 million despite record ridership; the Federal Transit Administration's New Starts program is cut by \$252 million, stifling the shovel-ready projects; and the TIGER program is cut by more than 80 percent, despite the program's popularity and success at advancing critical surface transportation projects across the country, with thousands of meritorious proposals still unfunded. And, once again, the bill includes no funding for progress towards a high speed rail system.

Funding for community development and housing safety-net programs is even worse. The bill would cut funding for the HOME program by 30 percent to \$700 million, the lowest level in the program's history. The bill would also limit the ability for our country to maintain and improve our nation's public housing stock by funding the Public Housing Capital Fund below the sequester level and would only provide a paltry \$25 million for the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative, the successor program of Hope VI program and our only comprehensive public housing revitalization program.

Additionally, the bill would force public housing agencies to turn needy families away from shelter by significantly underfunding the administrative fees needed to run the housing voucher program, the best hope of thousands of America's poorest families for safe and decent housing.

Another program that provides housing to vulnerable Americans in my district and many others is the Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program. Despite benefiting from an amendment in the Appropriations Committee, the bill before us today would cut HOPWA by more than \$24 million below last year's funding level.

Perhaps the most disappointing and regrettable fact about this bill is that the cuts it imposes could have been avoided, had the Republican leadership understood that we cannot cut our way into fiscal balance. House leaders could reconsider their refusal to talk with the President and work with him to address the real drivers of the deficit—tax expenditures and mandatory spending. Instead, they have again and again slashed critical domestic investments.

We must rid ourselves of unworkable budget caps and sequestration, lifting the drag they represent on our economy and the mockery they make of the appropriations process. The bill before us today is Exhibit A of this travesty, and I urge my colleagues to raise their voices and their votes against it.

#### REMEMBERING NORTH CAROLINA SENATOR HARRIS BLAKE

**HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn yesterday of the passing of former North Carolina State Senator Harris Blake. Sen. Blake served the people of Moore, Lee and Harnett Counties with honor and distinction for 10 years before being elected to the position of deputy president pro tempore for his final term in the North Carolina Senate. He was a loyal public servant who served in three different levels of government during his career, including the federal, state and local levels.

Harris was a friend to me during my early years in office, always willing to lend a helping hand or pass along knowledge about the counties we served. He was awarded the Order of the Longleaf Pine by Governor Pat McCrory in 2013—North Carolina's highest honor for those who have gone above and beyond in public service. Sen. Blake was a loving father, an honorable statesman and a trustworthy friend. We were fortunate to have him as a leader of our great state and the voice for Moore, Lee and Harnett Counties.

#### HONORING ELAINE KATZ

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, communities are built on the strength of its people and its institutions. Riverdale is such a strong community because of the service and dedication of residents like Elaine Katz. Elaine is a quintessential member of the community who should serve as a role model for us all.

The Riverdale community has enjoyed the gift of Elaine's service since she moved there 15 years ago. Her commitment to the Riverdale Temple is particularly noteworthy. Elaine strives to place the needs of others before her own, and often shies away from the spotlight. Instead, she chooses to be a guiding light for others. Her wisdom and foresight have enriched the Riverdale Temple in numerous ways.

Elaine is a member of the Board of Trustees and Assistant Financial Secretary. She's organized many outreach community programs for the Riverdale Temple, and serves as President of the Women of Reform Judaism.

Elaine's service to the community extends beyond the Bronx borders. She currently serves as the Vice President of the Lower Eastside Service Center in Manhattan, a nonprofit organization that assists New Yorkers with mental health and chemical dependency issues. Elaine's commitment to the Lower Eastside Service Center began over 29 years ago.

She is blessed with four loving grandchildren and three children. Elaine was married for 54 years before her husband passed away.

The Riverdale Temple is honoring Elaine Katz at their Student Sponsorship Breakfast. It

is my pleasure to congratulate her on her recognition at the event. Both the Riverdale community and I appreciate her exemplary service. The Riverdale community and the lives of the people she has touched would not be the same without her selfless devotion.

#### RECOGNITION OF "LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE" WINNER

#### HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Prakviti Mehta, an outstanding student and constituent from Memphis, Tennessee. Miss Mehta was selected as a winner of "Letters About Literature" for her composition written in response to Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr.

I commend Miss Mehta for her academic achievement and commitment to high standards. The "Letters About Literature" program is a nationwide competition sponsored by the Library of Congress that challenges students in grades 4–12 to write to the author of a poem, book, or speech. The competition is judged by a panel of authors, editors, publishers, librarians, teachers and state officials.

On behalf of Tennessee's 8th Congressional District, I congratulate Miss Mehta and wish her the best of luck for all future endeavors.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL VICTOR STREIT

#### HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Victor Streit who passed away on April 22, 2014. He was a Blue Diamond Veteran who served 13 years in the United States Marine Corps.

Lt. Col. Streit joined the Marine Corps in 1937 while still in college. In August of 1940 he was commissioned as an officer. He served with the First Marine Division throughout the Pacific during World War II. When he was stationed on Wallis Island he was the only soldier in his unit who could speak French, so he played a vital role in the transfer of power between Vichy and Free French authorities who held the Island. During his service Lt. Col. Streit was stationed in Pearl Harbor, Guantanamo Bay, Fort Benning, and Camp Lejeune and deployed to Wallis Island, Guadalcanal, Cape Gloucester, and Peleliu. He retired in 1949 receiving a citation from Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Presidential Unit Citation, American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, a WWII Victory Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Upon his retirement from the Corps, he worked as an administrator at Jonas Salk Junior High School in Levittown, New York. His devotion to education led him to help found Wesley College, a secondary school in St. George's Grenada, W.I. In addition to his work in Public Education, he was also extremely in-

volved with the missionary work of his church. He moved to Tequesta, Florida in 1983 and then to Jupiter in 2012 where he had been an active member of the Treasure Coast community as well as the Military Officers Association of America Palm Beach/Martin County Chapter. He is survived by his wife, Mary, four sons, his daughter, and his ten grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Lt. Col. Streit dedicated his life to this country. It is truly humbling to recognize his life and his great service to our country here today.

#### HONORING TEMPLE ISRAEL OF NEW ROCHELLE

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, New Rochelle, a community in my Congressional district, celebrates a wonderful blend of cultures. It is a symbol of our nation's cultural past and bright future, a nation that when united we can overcome incredible challenges in the service of others. However, such a future would not be possible without the support of religious institutions which work tirelessly in the service of individuals who experience hardships, and to bridge the divides that sometimes exist within our communities.

Temple Israel of New Rochelle lives by the motto, "Building our home, together," and it is clear the community embodies this notion. Temple Israel is at the forefront of the New Rochelle community. Its proud tradition of unifying many people of various backgrounds, working together to develop an inclusive environment, is their hallmark.

Temple Israel draws upon the faith and leadership of its clergy to support civil rights causes and fundraise for those in need, while also helping families within the community who are experiencing difficulties. Temple Israel is a congregation that relishes the opportunity to serve. Temple Israel of New Rochelle recognizes the broad spectrum of beliefs, ideals and cultures within our community, by celebrating this diversity within the programs it runs to aid our community. The synagogue recognizes a comprehensive understanding of beliefs, customs and traditions within Reform Judaism. This shared approach, of social and religious inclusion, ensures that Temple Israel remains a leader within our municipality, proactively working to unite the community, searching for our commonalities, rather than our differences.

Leading by example is central to Temple Israel, whose early childhood and adult education programs have led the way for the growth and development of our youth, and created further opportunities for members of the community to deepen their understanding of faith. These programs are crucial to providing a safe and secure environment in our communities.

I commend Temple Israel of New Rochelle, Rabbi Scott Weiner, the Temple Israel leadership and its members for their service to the community and legacy of religious inclusion. Together, they are the deserving recipients of Mary Lou McNaney Founder's Award from Hope Community Services.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent the week of May 27, 2014. If I were present, I would have voted on the following: rollcall vote No. 241: H. Res. 599—"yea"; rollcall vote No. 242: H.R. 503—"yea"; rollcall vote No. 243: Pompeo Amendment—"no"; rollcall vote No. 244: McNerney Amendment—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 245: Bridenstine Amendment—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 246: King (IA) Amendment—"no"; rollcall vote No. 247: Cohen Amendment No. 1—"no"; rollcall vote No. 248: Cohen Amendment No. 2—"no"; rollcall vote No. 249: Thompson (CA) Amendment—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 250: Polis Amendment—"no."

Rollcall vote No. 251: Cicilline Amendment—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 252: Smith (TX) Amendment—"no"; rollcall vote No. 253: Austin Scott Amendment—"no"; rollcall vote No. 254: Moran Amendment—"yes"; rollcall vote No. 255: Blackburn Amendment No. 14—"no"; rollcall vote No. 256: Blackburn Amendment No. 15—"no"; rollcall vote No. 257: Bonamici Amendment—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 258: Rohrabacher Amendment—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 259: Holding Amendment—"no"; rollcall vote No. 260: Massie Amendment—"aye."

Rollcall vote No. 261: Southerland Amendment—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 262: Ellison Amendment—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 263: Grayson Amendment—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 264: Duffy Amendment—"no"; rollcall vote No. 265: Garrett Amendment—"no"; rollcall vote No. 266: King (IA) Amendment—"no"; rollcall vote No. 267: Meadows Amendment—"no"; rollcall vote No. 268: Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 4660—"aye"; rollcall vote No. 269: Final Passage of H.R. 4660—"yea"; rollcall vote No. 270: Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 4681—"yea"; rollcall vote No. 271: Passage of H.R. 4681—"aye."

#### INTRODUCTION OF A HOUSE RESOLUTION DISAGREEING WITH THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION RATINGS SYSTEM

#### HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, the diversity within our Nation's postsecondary education system is the envy of the world. Colleges and universities across the United States of America are preparing individuals to become doctors, teachers, scientists, counselors, entrepreneurs, artists, musicians, and hundreds of other occupations. While each student chooses a specific field of study, there is no doubt that postsecondary education has many benefits outside of training in a specified field. Institutions are cultivating individuals who are civically engaged and who are going into public service, the military, ministry, non-profit work, or are staying at home to care for family. We cannot measure the benefits associated with these types of life-long lessons, and

yet that is what the Administration's proposed Postsecondary Institutions Ratings System will attempt to do.

On December 17, 2013 the Department of Education solicited in the Federal Register a Request for Information on the Postsecondary Institution Ratings System (PIRS), suggesting that the Federal Government knows better than students and their families what makes a college or university valuable and appropriate for each individual. A rating system, administered by the Federal Government and potentially tied to Federal student aid, will drive postsecondary institutions to standardization, thereby decreasing choice, diversity, and innovation.

I rise today in opposition to this proposal and instead stand in support of students and their families—they know best what will meet their educational needs. The House Resolution I offered today with my friend, Congressman CAPUANO, strongly supports the quality and value of diversity in our higher education system and strongly disagrees with the Administration's proposal to rate our Nation's colleges and universities.

It is true that all taxpayer dollars, including those spent on Federal student aid, should be spent efficiently; however, it is also important that we trust students' free choices and allow for postsecondary institutions to be evaluated, not only by their accreditation and Federal eligibility for federal aid, but also by the free market choices of the students they are competing for.

Our Nation's colleges and universities are as diverse as our students. Historically black colleges, women's colleges, faith-based colleges, research universities, career training schools, work colleges, land grant universities, institutes for the arts, and other specialized institutions all offer a world of opportunity and innovation in postsecondary education. We must protect this American tradition and reject any proposal that will intentionally, or unintentionally, destroy it.

#### HONORING FRED WILFORD

#### HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Fred Wilford on his retirement after thirty-six years of service to his community as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Sagaponack Common School District in Sagaponack, New York, located in my district. Mr. Wilford has served his community and his country with dedication and distinction, and I am proud to call him a resident of New York's first congressional district. In addition to his long-time work on the school board, he is also a fifty-year veteran of the local volunteer fire department and a veteran of the United States Navy.

First elected to the Sagaponack school board in 1978, Mr. Wilford has served twelve consecutive terms on the board. He is known as a dedicated and caring person who always works for what is best for the school, its students and its teachers. His connection to the school district stretches back to his grandmother, Maebelle Clarke, who taught at the school at the beginning of the Twentieth Cen-

tury and where she met her future husband, Fred Topping. With its historic little red schoolhouse and one teacher, the Sagaponack school district has one of the few remaining one-room schoolhouses in the country.

Mr. Wilford, who has lived all of his life in Sagaponack except for the four years he served in the Navy, attended the Sagaponack schoolhouse as did his mother, Elmira, his six siblings and his four children. During his tenure on the board, he served as board president, vice president and trustee. His wife Ellen served as a member of the school maintenance support staff, the scholarship committee and the shared decision making committee throughout his tenure on the board.

"I love the job, I love the school, and I love what I do," Mr. Wilford, said recently about his plan to retire this month. "It's been part of my life for so many years that you hate to give it up."

In addition to his service to the school, Wilford also served for fifty years as a member, past chief and commissioner of the Bridgehampton Fire Department. He worked for the Long Island Lighting Company for over thirty years and currently operates an estate care business.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the school district will miss Fred Wilford's expertise and commitment after he retires. On behalf of New York's first congressional district, I would like to wish him well and thank him for all he has done for our community.

#### HONORING SAMUEL GRANBY, JR.

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, communities are built upon the shared values and good will of neighbors. Samuel Granby, Jr., known to his friends as "Granby," has continually demonstrated his selfless commitment to his community and to enhancing the lives of others. He lives by the principle, "Service to Mankind."

Granby was introduced to mortuary science while serving our great nation. He was responsible with transporting deceased personnel to the morgue, even though he had suffered from second and third degree burns as the result of a lightning strike. He received an honorable discharge from the United States Army in 1955, and later graduated from the McAllister School of Embalming.

Granby married his high school sweetheart, Ayris Evans, and the pair is blessed with two children, Ayris and Rev. Lamont. Granby and his wife also have three wonderful grandchildren.

An entrepreneur at heart, Granby dreamed of owning his own funeral service. Granby operated his funeral business out of the Wiley's Funeral Home, before opening Granby's Funeral Service, Inc., on April 27, 1984. Granby's is truly a family enterprise; his wife and children have helped him manage and grow the business.

After 37 years of service, Granby retired as a general supervisor for the United States Postal Service in 1988. He was very popular with his coworkers and would train his staff for other opportunities within the USPS.

Granby has shown the same type of steadfast dedication to his community as he has to his profession. He served as the Chairperson for the Carnegie Hall concert given by the Friends of the United Negro College Fund Choir, which raised money for the United Negro College Fund and helps defray travel costs for the United Negro College Fund Choir.

He is also a member of: Prince Hall, Fidelity Lodge #97 of Free and Accepted Masons; Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Epsilon Sigma Chapter; 369th Veterans Association, Westchester District; Saint Luke's Episcopal Church's "Men on a Mission" and the Williamsbridge Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Granby has been recognized and honored by several organizations for his service. Among his honors, Granby and his wife jointly received the "Pierre Toussaint Medallion" from the New York Archdiocese in 2007.

He strongly believes that education is the key to uplifting the community, and in the spirit of his beliefs, Granby's Funeral Service has established a scholarship fund for college-bound students and those seeking to attend vocational school.

Samuel Granby's story illustrates the power of striving for our dreams. I applaud him for his commitment to our nation through his service in the armed forces, to his community and to his family.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. CORA L.E. CHRISTIAN

#### HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend a medical colleague who has been a trailblazer for over 30 years, in the area of health care in my district of the U.S. Virgin Islands, in the wider Caribbean and in the national arena as well.

Dr. Cora L.E. Christian was the first native female to become a medical doctor in the Virgin Islands and this Saturday, June 14th, she will be honored for a lifetime of dedicated public service, by the Virgin Islands Medical Institute, (VIMI), a group that she founded in 1977 to improve the quality of health care for all territorial residents. Today I join them in paying tribute to a fellow physician, administrator and public servant for her vision, courage and diligence as she worked to make a difference in the lives of the people of our community.

Dr. Christian completed her medical studies at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, her residency in Family Practice at Howard University Medical Center and her Masters in Public Health at Johns Hopkins University.

Upon completion of her studies, she returned to the Virgin Islands to serve the economically depressed area of Frederiksted, St. Croix. There, she served as emergency room physician, and Physician in Charge of the Ingeborg Nesbitt Clinic. In 1977, she became Assistant Commissioner of Health for the Virgin Islands, and served in that capacity for over 15 years, spanning three political administrations. She was in charge of health services on the island of St. Croix as well as having territory wide responsibility for ambulatory

care, chronic diseases, immunization, maternal and child health, public health laboratories, neighborhood health centers, the sexually transmitted disease program, the HIV program and family planning programs. Dr. Cora Christian is credited with the development of the Frederiksted Health Center, both its renovations from the old hospital into a functioning health center and its staffing with qualified professionals. She also spearheaded and managed a regional system of preventive and health promotion activities for the territory.

In 1991, Dr. Cora Christian became the Medical Director of HOVENSA, one of the largest oil refineries in the Western Hemisphere located on St. Croix and served as the Chief Medical Consultant until its closure in 2012. She is board certified in forensic medicine and is President of the V.I. Chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. She has been President, Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Virgin Islands Medical Society, past Public Relations Chair of Project Impact—St. Croix, Board Member of the St. Croix chapter of the American Cancer Society and Board Member of the Interfaith Coalition. Dr. Christian chaired the Foundation of the University of the Virgin Islands for 10 years, and is currently still a Board Member. Dr. Christian continues to lead the Virgin Islands Medical Institute, which brings over \$3 million to the territory with each contract cycle.

On the national level, Dr. Christian has served as Vice-Speaker and member of the Board of Directors for the American Health Quality Association, the national quality improvement organization. She was consultant to the NY/VI AIDS Education and Training Center and was past Chair of the by-laws committee and member of the Commission on Government Advocacy for the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). She is delegate to the Congress of Delegates of AAFP and Sergeant of Arms for the Congress. In 2013, she received the AAFP Humanitarian Award for outstanding community service. From 2004 to 2010, she served on the National AARP Board overseeing over 36 million members. She was a member of the Health Insurance Trust and numerous committees of the AARP National Board.

Dr. Christian has also served as President of the Caribbean Studies Association, an association of scholars from across the Caribbean, Latin America, the United States, Canada and Europe that studies Caribbean issues. She is well published and a frequent presenter and public speaker.

Dr. Christian has been honored as the Virgin Islands Physician of the Year in 2003, the VIMI Physician for Community Service in 1997, and Best Doctor in American in 1999. She is a Paul Harris Fellow.

Dr. Christian is married to Dr. Simon B. Jones-Hendrickson, Ambassador from St. Kitts & Nevis Federation to CARICOM and Latin America and she has two children, Nesha, a practicing attorney and Marcus, a biologist and entrepreneur.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask the 113th Congress to join me in congratulating Dr. Christian for her tireless work on behalf of the health and well being of the people of the Virgin Islands.

#### HONORING EAGLE SCOUT RECIPIENTS

#### HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate five young men from Dyersburg, Tennessee: Alan Cecil, Daniel Clegg, Peyton Hickman, James D. Johnson III, and Hunter Webster who have achieved the Eagle Scout award, a Boy Scout's highest honor. This recognition is well deserved and represents these young men's commitment to public service.

In order to become an Eagle Scout, each young man had to earn more than twenty-one merit badges as well as serve their fellow troops in a variety of leadership roles. They also had to develop and plan an Eagle Scout project to benefit their local communities.

Achieving the status of Eagle Scout is a huge accomplishment, and I commend these gentlemen for being positive role models to young people across our great state and the nation through their commitment to community service.

Once again, congratulations to these five young men for their outstanding accomplishment. I am very proud of them all and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

#### HONORING JOHN MUSTO

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, education is the bedrock of our society. Education teaches our children to dream and allows them to achieve their ambitions. Teachers are thus one of our most valuable assets.

Albert Einstein once noted that, "it is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." Their passion, drive and dedication to their students is inspirational. We entrust them with the responsibility of shaping our leaders, which is why today I must commend one such individual, John Musto.

John is the Assistant Principal for Student Affairs at St. Raymond's High School for Boys. He began his 23-year tenure there as a history teacher and later became Chairman of the department, before becoming an assistant principal.

John is driven by a desire to give back to the community that has afforded him such opportunity and fond memories. He was instilled with the values of service and volunteerism by his father and the deep respect he fostered toward volunteers within Morris Park Community Association, who patrolled the neighborhood to ensure the community was a safe place to grow up. John has continued to demonstrate this sense of commitment through his volunteer service as a basketball coach at St. Francis Xavier for the past three decades.

Along with his wife Liz, John is the proud father of three daughters: Sabrina, Gabriella and Olizia. His family undoubtedly shares in his pride in our community and for his life of commitment to service. Much of what is accomplished within our community by devoted indi-

viduals is also a reflection of the strong support they receive from their families.

Mr. Speaker, teaching is not a job, it is a vocation. I join with the Morris Park Community Association in honoring John at their 40th Annual Dinner Dance. I wish John Musto every success in the future, as he continues to work to shape the lives of our nation's youth into tomorrow's leaders.

#### THE OCCASION OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF REVEREND DOCTOR STEVE BLAND JR. AS PASTOR OF LIBERTY TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN

#### HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Dr. Steve Bland Jr. on the occasion of his Tenth Anniversary as the Senior Pastor of the congregation of Liberty Temple Baptist Church in Detroit, MI.

As the son of the late Reverend Steve Bland Sr., who was pastor to Bethesda Baptist Church, Dr. Bland grew up immersed in the teachings of Christ. It is hardly surprising that, like his father, Dr. Bland would heed the call and desire to serve his community. Dr. Bland entered the ministry full-time after working at a Kansas City accounting firm in the early 1980's. He is also the former Minister of Music, Youth Pastor and Assistant Pastor to the late Rev. Dr. Mac Charles Jones at the St. Stephen Baptist Church of Kansas City, MO. After faithfully serving for over 14 years in Rockford, Illinois as Pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church, Dr. Bland was called to serve the congregation at Liberty Temple Baptist Church.

Under his leadership, the congregation at Liberty Temple has flourished with an increase of well over 900 members in a brief time. During his 10 years as Senior Pastor, Dr. Bland has brought a great sense of spiritual revitalization and excitement to Liberty Temple Baptist Church and the city of Detroit. Dr. Bland is a dynamic leader who offers a vibrant worship experience, inspirational teaching, and uplifting preaching, while meeting the holistic needs of the church, his family, and surrounding community.

As a Miles Jones Fellow and doctoral graduate of the Samuel Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, Dr. Bland's intellect and achievements have been sought out leading to appointments on several boards and leadership positions in the BM&E State Convention, Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Michigan District Baptist Association, the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit & Vicinity, the Ministers Council of the Michigan Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. of Detroit, Michigan and the Progressive National Baptist Convention.

In every way possible, Dr. Bland finds avenues through which he can further God's kingdom and genuinely pursues them. Dr. Bland's grand efforts have been strengthened by his wife, Phyllis, and his three children, Steven, Brandon, and Sydney.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the profound impact that

Reverend Dr. Steve Bland Jr. has made on the congregation of Liberty Temple Baptist Church as its pastor for the last ten years and the larger impact he has made on the communities around him. I wish Dr. Bland, his family, and the congregants of Liberty Temple many more blessed years of spiritual fellowship.

#### HONORING THE OPENING OF THE ULSTER COUNTY PATRIOTS PROJECT

**HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the opening of the Ulster County Patriots Project in Kingston, New York. The Patriots Project, which will open on July 2, addresses an issue that plagues many of our veterans, including many in my district—homelessness. Once open, the Patriots Project will provide eight clean and safe rooms, two of which will be handicap-accessible, for Ulster County homeless veterans as they work through the many challenges confronting our veteran population.

I also rise today to thank Ulster County Executive Mike Hein and all the leaders from across Ulster County who made the Patriots Project a reality. I was honored to join with leaders from across the region who wrote letters of support and leveraged a variety of governmental programs to fund the program. Moreover, Mike, his team, and volunteers from across my district donated their time, resources, and expertise to ensure that this noble project came to fruition. On behalf of the people of New York's 19th Congressional District, I thank them.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CAREERS OF ALLAN AND JILL ROSS

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the noteworthy careers of Allan and Jill Ross, of the Quad Cities.

The Ross' married in 1973 and both joined the U.S. Army that year. Allan, a veteran of 20 years, retired in 1994 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He served domestically and abroad, ending his military service at the Rock Island Arsenal. Following his career in the Army, Allan worked in commercial real estate, investments, and internet sales, and he has been serving as the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities since 2002, an organization that addresses the needs of its community in a wide range of issues.

Jill, served as an Army Personnel Specialist and Team Leader, and rose to the rank of Sergeant. She later worked for the Army library system in Germany, managing three libraries. Following her time in the military, Jill manages and owns Jill Ross Vintage Clothes, which she has done successfully since 1983. Jill has also been a very active member of the Jewish community, which include volunteer work for the Tri-City Jewish Center, the Beth Israel Sisterhood and the Jewish Federation.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank the Ross' for their years of dedicated service to our country and community. Allan Ross and his wife Jill have been, and continue to be, invaluable members of the community, and I am again delighted to recognize their achievements and pleased to know that people like them are contributing to our society.

#### EASTCHESTER 350TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, our young nation includes many communities that are older than America itself. I am pleased to recognize one of those communities, the Town of Eastchester, as it celebrates its 350th Anniversary.

Eastchester is truly a town steeped in history. A number of America's famed daughters and sons have a connection to Eastchester, including Anne Hutchinson, Aaron Burr, and John Adams.

Eastchester's origins can be traced back to Thomas Pell, who sold his land to original ten farm families migrated from Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1664. The Pell Deed, signed on June 24, of that year, verifies the sale and serves as proof of the Town's founding.

The Eastchester Covenant, signed in 1665, outlines a civil code of conduct agreed upon by the first families. The spirit of their Covenant lives today; neighbors help neighbors, friends show their concern for others, and volunteers work together to ensure the community continues to thrive.

Governor Richard Nicolls, acting as the colonial agent on behalf of James, Duke of York, signed the Royal Patent, or Land Grant, of 1666, which established the initial town boundaries. Three of the original ten farmers—Philip Pinckney, James Everts and William Haiden—were named in this document.

Two other documents—the Indian Deed of 1700 and the Long Reach Patent of 1708—enabled the fledgling community to continue to grow. The Long Reach Patent, in particular, transferred over 3,000 acres of land to Eastchester from Queen Anne. Much of that land is included within the borders of modern Eastchester.

Eastchester is now a thriving, suburban community nestled within Westchester County. Residents of Eastchester, along with the incorporated Villages of Tuckahoe and Bronxville, are celebrating the Town's founding with a year-long celebration honoring Eastchester's storied past.

It is my hope that residents will commemorate the Town of Eastchester's 350 year anniversary with much friendship and joy, as they work together to build an even stronger future.

It has been a pleasure to represent this historic Town in Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2014 MICHIGAN POLICE OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave men and women of the Michigan law enforcement community who were recently awarded the 2014 Police Officers of the Year award by the Police Officer Association of Michigan (POAM), which represents over 14,000 frontline officers across the state. As part of the 47th annual POAM convention that was held on May 22, 2014 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, five officers were recognized for recent heroic actions and dedication to their work.

I would first like to honor Southfield Police Officer Nicholas Smiscik who, on New Year's Day 2013, bravely pursued an armed carjacker who shot and injured two people in Redford Township.

Officer Smiscik subdued the dangerous suspect and placed him under arrest. During his acceptance speech at the POAM convention Officer Smiscik stated that he was simply "doing his job." I want to thank him for his service and for risking his life to keep our communities safe. I am honored to have him as a constituent in my District.

I would also like to recognize Crawford County Officers Matthew Swope and Michael Jacobi, who were honored as Police Officers of the Year for putting their lives on the line while apprehending a dangerous individual who was deemed a proven threat to the community.

In addition, Grand Blanc Officers Andrea Carlson and Lindsay Witthuhn were honored with the 2014 Police Officers of the Year award for acting with great bravery and discipline when responding to a domestic disturbance and preventing a far more tragic outcome.

Mr. Speaker, as a long-time friend, supporter and ally of the Michigan law enforcement community, I am proud to recognize the commitment of Michigan's police officers and the sacrifices they and their families make each and every day. Like Officer Smiscik, they will say they are just doing their job, but their dedication and bravery in the line of duty make our communities safe and enjoyable places to live.

It is a great honor to represent these heroic men and women and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating all five Michigan officers on receiving this award.

#### CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECALOGUE SOCIETY

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate the Decalogue Society of Lawyers, which this year celebrates its 80th anniversary.

Founded in 1934 to fight anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination and intolerance,



the Decalogue Society has a proud record of achievement. It is the oldest Jewish Bar Association in the United States, representing the values and concerns of the Jewish community while working to protect the rights and privileges of all Americans. The Decalogue Society strives to promote justice in society and to advance and improve the law, the administration of justice, and the legal profession.

All of us are proud to be a nation of laws, and we strive to ensure that "equal justice under the law" is not just a motto but a reality. The Decalogue Society recognizes that lawyers play an essential role in maintaining a free society committed to equal justice. It works to ensure that we as a nation understand and value the role of the legal profession in reaching that goal, even as its lawyers participate in social action and cooperate in diverse movements for the public welfare.

The Decalogue Society maintains vigilance against public and private practices which are anti-social, discriminatory, anti-Semitic or oppressive and joins with other groups and minorities to protect legal rights and privileges. The Decalogue Society's active Social Action Committee has organized volunteers for "Mitzvah" projects at soup kitchens, food pantries, and retirement residences. With a strong commitment to public welfare and human rights, the Decalogue Society, in conjunction with other minority bar associations, has raised awareness about special situations in the courts and in the workplace that present challenges for people of various faiths.

Access to competent legal representation is an essential ingredient for making sure that the laws of the land are just and fairly enforced. The Decalogue Society provides free continuing legal education to assist members and non-members alike in becoming better informed lawyers. It extends critical educational and financial support to those lawyers who work to end discrimination and represent the rights of the most vulnerable among us. The Decalogue Foundation was created in the 1960s to provide scholarships for deserving law students. It has established nine endowment funds at the Hebrew University Law School and six Chicago-area law schools. It also has a mentorship program for law students and young lawyers to help them network, hone their interviewing skills, and find jobs.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Decalogue Society for its commitment to the ideals of religious freedom and racial tolerance and for its efforts to encourage and assist those women and men who want to pursue future legal careers in public service. Chicago, Illinois and the United States all benefit from its activities and from its commitment to the principles of law and equality.

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS  
ENTERING OUR ARMED FORCES

**HON. RICHARD L. HANNA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor high school graduates from the

Broome/Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services area who are entering the U.S. Armed Forces. These young men and women have made an admirable decision to defend our country. I join the Conklin Kiwanis Club and Our Community Salutes of Broome County, New York in honoring them.

The Conklin Kiwanis Club and Our Community Salutes of Broome County, New York will hold a special celebration to honor these graduating high school seniors. "The First to Say Thank You" event will take place on Tuesday, June 10th at Windsor Central High School in Windsor, New York.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you join me in honoring the following students entering the New York State Army National Guard: Ms. Lynn Lyons, Candor; Mr. Victor Beecher, Whitney Point; Mr. Ryan Burch, Susquehanna Valley; Mr. Jordan Little, Binghamton.

Honoring the students entering the U.S. Air Force: Ms. Alisha Hubbard, Afton; Ms. Alexis Delgado, Binghamton; Mr. Zachary Hunt, Harpursville; Mr. John Armitage, Union-Endicott.

Honoring the students entering the U.S. Army: Mr. Gerald Hastings, Binghamton; Mr. Joshua Williams, Chenango Valley; Ms. Sarah Carpinelli, Owego-Apalachin; Mr. Kristofer Colley, Susquehanna Valley; Ms. Leah Fuller, Union-Endicott; Mr. Trevor Hampton, Windsor.

Honoring the students entering the U.S. Marines: Mr. Dylan Chisolm, Binghamton; Mr. Brandon Davis, Binghamton; Mr. David Contento, Cortland; Mr. Scott Gregory, Harpursville; Mr. Jacob Norton, Homer; Mr. Brandon Miller, Homer; Ms. Kayla Lainhart, Johnson City; Mr. Jackson Beukema, Maine-Endwell; Mr. Timothy Lasher, Maine-Endwell; Mr. Gavin Gates, Marathon; Mr. Brett Kunze, Newark Valley; Ms. Victoria Young, Owego-Apalachin; Mr. Damien Travis, Tioga; Mr. Troy Harding, Vestal; Mr. Nicholas Clark, Whitney Point; Mr. Brendan Smith, Windsor; Mr. Vincent Mathers, Windsor; Mr. Austin Orshal, Windsor; Ms. Helen Kilbury, Windsor; Mr. Trevor Hawk, Windsor; Mr. Noah Jones, Windsor.

Honoring the students entering the U.S. Navy: Mr. Logan Dietzman, Harpursville; Mr. Christian Moretz, Harpursville; Mr. Benjamin Shultis, Homer; Mr. Brett Rozelle, Maine-Endwell; Ms. Heather Carpinelli, Owego-Apalachin; Mr. Nathan Garriss, Union-Endicott; Mr. Brandon Piech, Whitney Point.

HONORING U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY  
BOUND STUDENTS—CLASS OF 2018

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a tremendous honor to rise today to recognize the 24 young men and women of the Third District of Texas who have been nominated and appointed to the prestigious United States Service Academies. These brave students will commit to diligently study and rigorously train to become our nation's defenders and protectors. North Texas is home to some of our nation's best and brightest students and I look forward to their future successes.

Throughout high school, these individuals have devoted their time to both athletic and educational ventures, while contributing to their communities. They have excelled both in and out of the classroom. Bottom line is they are the cream of the crop. I have no doubt they will continue this level of excellence as they protect and preserve the freedoms we all hold dear. It is with great pride that I look at these young men and women. It is people like them who give me great hope that our nation's best days are ahead.

I humbly take this opportunity to challenge these exemplary students to uphold the standard of honor, sacrifice, duty, and courage that have been displayed time and time again by our troops and veterans. These students will receive a world-class education and the finest military training available. I'm confident that they are ready to join the premier military force of the world.

May we keep these young students and their families in our hearts and lift them up in prayer for their commitment to America and the sacrifices they are willing to make for our citizens. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and celebrating these individuals as they embark on a lifetime of service. God bless you and God bless America. I salute them.

The name and high school of each student follows:

THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SERVICE  
ACADEMY APPOINTEES—CLASS OF 2018

U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

Andre Bergstein, Plano East Senior High School  
Blake William Box, Plano West Senior High School  
Taylor Chambers, Plano Senior High School  
Timothy Johnson, McKinney Boyd High School  
Jonathan Lara, Plano Senior High School  
Kenneth Nead, Centennial High School  
\*Jesse Palmer, Plano West Senior High School

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Natasha Blaskovich, McKinney North High School  
Collin Charles, Heritage High School  
Brock Crawford, Legacy Christian Academy  
Julie Hodges, Allen High School  
Erin Hoppe, McKinney High School  
Curtis Ladd, McKinney Boyd High School  
Jamie Lewis, Plano West Senior High School  
Drew Morgan, Pecan Orchard Academy  
Samuel Schell, Plano West Senior High School  
\*John Carver, Wakeland High School  
\*Emily Krupka, Plano West Senior High School

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

Brock Dudley, Plano West Senior High School  
Jessica Martinez, Ursuline Academy of Dallas  
Simic Tuan, Plano East Senior High School  
Christopher Turner, Liberty High School  
\*Connor Doyle, McKinney Christian Academy

U.S. MERCHANT MARINE

Clayton Foster, Canterbury Episcopal School  
\*Denotes acceptance to one of the academy preparatory schools



HONORING JOSEPH BENARDO

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, far too many of our young men and women in the armed services have witnessed the horrors of war. So noble is the sacrifice they have made while serving our country in uniform. Patriots like Joseph Benardo proudly served, so that others would not have to.

Joe was just 22 years old when he was sent to fight in Europe. A first-generation American, he felt compelled to defend his homeland and to fight for the freedom of people everywhere.

Joe was in the first wave of troops who stormed Omaha Beach in the historic invasion on June 6, 1944. He and two other soldiers were hit by a mortar; Joe was severely wounded during the invasion. A medic found Joe and whisked him to a military hospital, where he remained until the war's end.

A very strong history of service runs within the Benardo family. Joe, the oldest of Samuel and Alegra's three children, is a Purple Heart recipient. His brother Jack won a Bronze Star, and the youngest brother Leo served stateside during the Korean War. Ian, Joe's only grandchild, served in the Israeli army.

Joe is equally committed to his country as he is to his family, for he understands both are the very foundations of our society.

A Bronx boy at heart, Joe never left his hometown, save for his service abroad. He and his brothers lived in close proximity to each other, so that their bond would remain strong. Joe and his late wife Lillian raised two sons, Steven and Sheldon, who still call the Bronx home. Like their mother, Steve and Sheldon chose to serve our country by educating Bronx youth.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Omaha Beach invasion, a day that helped alter the course of history. We owe our lives, liberty, and freedom to those who have served honorably in the armed forces. It is a debt that we, as a nation, can never fully repay.

Joseph Benardo has much to be proud of when he celebrates his 95th birthday in September. He has created an enduring legacy of valor, service, and sacrifice that can be felt by the lives of whom he has touched.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF  
NEWTOWN COMMEMORATION**HON. VERN BUCHANAN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the centennial celebration of Sarasota's African American community of Newtown.

Since its initial development in 1914, Newtown has experienced tremendous challenges and historic triumphs.

In the early 1900s, African Americans were recruited to provide an adequate workforce during Sarasota's economic boom. Many of them moved into the Newtown community.

In its early years, Newtown flourished, despite segregation, with several successful small businesses, schools and churches.

In 1961, four years after the U.S. Supreme Court's *Brown vs. Board of Education* Court decision that declared laws establishing separate public schools for black and white students unconstitutional, the NAACP filed a desegregation lawsuit in federal court. And in 1962, the first African American students enrolled in what had been all-white schools.

Twenty years later, the NAACP successfully challenged Sarasota's system of local representation, alleging it prevented the election of blacks to city government, and in 1985 Fred Atkins became the first African American to serve on the city commission.

I appreciate this opportunity to help celebrate the rich heritage of Newtown.

RECOGNIZING POLICE DETECTIVE  
EDWARD T. DAVIES**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, after 29 years of honorable service, Police Detective Edward T. Davies of Perkasié Borough will be retiring from the Montgomery Township Police Department on July 31, 2014. During his career, he served in several leadership capacities and has received many commendations for his professional service. He is known as a keen investigator, a court-qualified fingerprint expert, and a hostage negotiator. Detective Davies has served the Montgomery Township community with distinction, receiving sixteen commendations and numerous letters of appreciation from township residents and neighboring law enforcement agencies. In 1996, he was honored with Officer of the Year by the North Penn Chamber of Commerce. We extend our congratulations, as we wish him a happy and well-deserved retirement. Because we are proud of dedicated police officers, who, each day, are on the front lines of public safety, we offer Detective Edward T. Davies our gratitude for a job well done, knowing he has set an example for others to follow.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WOMEN  
AND MINORITIES IN STEM  
BOOSTER ACT**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, together, women and minorities comprise 2/3 of the entire United States workforce. Women today make up half of the current workforce, yet they still hold less than a quarter of all Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) jobs. Minority populations including African-American, Hispanic, and Asian populations make up only 28 percent of the STEM workforce.

Between 2010 and 2020, STEM career fields are expected to grow by 8.5 million jobs. These jobs pay 35 more percent than jobs in other fields. Furthermore, there is a great demand for workers with scientific, technological, engineering, and mathematics-based skills. STEM-educated graduates are more likely to

find jobs in the manufacturing sector, the industry most likely to boost our economy and increase competition.

Background in a STEM education is essential to the many jobs that are opening in the manufacturing industry. America's manufacturing sector has led our economic recovery and will help the United States remain competitive in economic competition with emerging economies. However, in order to return to pre-recession level, the manufacturing sector must add 1.7 million jobs. Women and minorities engaged in STEM training have greater opportunity to contribute to the manufacturing sector and boost our global economy.

That is why I'm introducing the House version of S. 288, the Women and Minorities in STEM Booster Act of 2014. This bill will authorize competitive grant programs for three years through the National Science Foundation. The grants will go to online workshops, mentoring programs, internships, and outreach programs to engage women and minorities in STEM university departments, educational partnerships, and non-profit organizations to encourage the participation of women and minorities in STEM.

America must invest in the potential of our entire workforce in order for our manufacturing sector to expand and our global competitiveness rise. Opportunities in STEM education will empower historically underrepresented groups who will help boost our economy so that it reaches its full capacity. I urge my colleagues to support the availability of STEM opportunities for all students in the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE ADDITION OF  
THE 2015 VIKING VI SIDE BY  
SIDE PRODUCTION OF YAMAHA  
MOTORS MANUFACTURING  
PLANT**HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to recognize addition of the 2015 Viking VI Side-By-Side production at Yamaha Motors Manufacturing plant in Newnan, Georgia. This is a momentous occasion for Yamaha Motors and for Georgia, as Newnan is home to the Yamaha Motor Manufacturing Corporation facility.

Since 1986, Yamaha Motors has helped to grow Georgia's economy with quality manufacturing, more jobs, and a deep commitment to improving our community. Their production keeps over 1,350 Georgians employed and are expected to add over 300 additional jobs over the next few years. Yamaha Motor Manufacturing Corporation's continued success led to a \$250 million investment over the last thirteen years, making Newnan, Georgia Yamaha's worldwide hub for ATV/SxS production and distribution.

Yamaha's achievements showcase how great Georgia is for manufacturing and business, and I thank them for their commitment to improving our district and state's economy. I am honored that the Yamaha Motor Manufacturing Corporation calls Georgia's Third District home and look forward to sharing many more milestones with them in the future.

HONORING THE GRAND OPENING  
OF PRESTONWOOD CHRISTIAN  
ACADEMY NORTH

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Prestonwood Christian Academy (PCA) on the grand opening of their North campus. PCA, one of the strongest Christian education programs in the country, provides students with lessons that extend far beyond the classroom. Their level of commitment to excellence in academics, athletics and arts coupled with lifelong teachings of biblical faith contributes to a brighter America and stronger future for our youth.

Larry Taylor's, Head of School, vision and promise for our youth is precisely what students need to help them succeed. In a message to the students, parents and friends of PCA—he wrote:

If your vision is for a year, plant wheat.

If your vision is for ten years, plant trees.

If your vision is for a lifetime, plant people.

I couldn't agree more. We must invest in people. A Christian education not only empowers our next generation of leaders to work hard, persevere, and reach their fullest potential but live a life according to God's will. It produces students who are strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families and communities. I am pleased to see PCA grow and have the opportunity to reach children and parents in more communities including Prosper, Celina, North Frisco, and McKinney.

As classes begin for the first time, I pray for the continued growth of the PCA community, the new principal Mrs. Donna Gilson Leadford, and for discernment in hiring godly faculty and staff.

I commend the leadership of the countless teachers, faculty, parents, and volunteers who contributed to the development of this new campus. I look forward to seeing the many ways in which the creative and innovative voices of this institution will help shape and educate our young North Texans. I am confident, PCA will soon serve as a model for more and more schools across the nation.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in welcoming Prestonwood Christian Academy North!

HONORING ASSOCIATION OF RIVERDALE COOPERATIVES & CONDOMINIUMS

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, all vibrant communities are underpinned by strong civic associations. I would like to recognize the Association of Riverdale Cooperatives & Condominiums for their steadfast commitment to the Riverdale community and for 30 years of service.

The Association of Riverdale Cooperatives & Condominiums was formed in 1984, with the mission to educate local condominium and co-

operative owners on issues directly related to cooperative living.

As the Association expanded, it developed additional services and programs to ensure better management of residential property, such as civic engagement through political advocacy.

The Association of Riverdale Cooperatives & Condominiums succeeded in its efforts to convince ConEd to install natural gas supply lines in Riverdale and diversified communication sources by bringing Verizon to the Riverdale market.

I commend the Association of Riverdale Cooperatives & Condominiums for 30 years of service to the Riverdale community and to the greater Bronx. I am confident the organization will continue to grow and that its continued outreach will benefit future generations of cooperative and condominium owners.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN  
SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

**HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the American Society of Clinical Oncology's (ASCO) fiftieth anniversary.

Since ASCO's founding in 1964, it has made tremendous gains to improve the lives of Americans diagnosed with cancer. When the Society was formed, cancer was often fatal with few effective treatments. Today, new and innovative treatments have developed that are changing what it means to receive a cancer diagnosis.

As a survivor of cancer of the appendix, I can attest to this personally. In 2007 I received an innovative treatment called hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy. This involves washing the abdomen with heated chemotherapy to eliminate cancerous cells. A little more than a year after receiving this treatment, I ran my first marathon. Three years later I began my first campaign for Congress, and seven years later I am still cancer-free.

Advancements in cancer treatments like this bring hope to the millions of Americans suffering from cancer, and the 1.6 million Americans who will receive a cancer diagnosis this year.

I thank the ASCO for its continued research and contributions to the science in the last fifty years, and I look forward to the development of even more innovations to fight and cure cancer.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. NIKI TSONGAS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 273 held on June 9, 2014, I intended to vote "no." I oppose Amendment 783 offered by Representative BROWN to H.R. 4745. Nearly 32 million passengers rely on Amtrak for business and recreational travel annually. The Northeast Corridor, which runs between

Washington, DC and my home State of Massachusetts, is one of the busiest and most technically advanced tracks in the world. We ought to be investing more in our nation's passenger rail system, not less.

HONORING THE WINNERS OF  
MAINE'S NATIONAL HISTORY  
DAY COMPETITION

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the winners of Maine's National History Day competition who are eligible to represent our State in the national competition.

Maine's National History Day program is a partnership between the University of Maine and the Margaret Chase Smith Foundation that promotes the study of history in schools. This year, the students were tasked with pursuing projects centered on the theme of "Rights & Responsibilities in History." Among those eligible to represent Maine at the national competition are 30 students from across Maine's Second Congressional District.

The following students are eligible to represent Maine at the national competition: Sydney McDonald and Kathleen Dunn of Bangor High School; Abby Boucher of Penobscot Christian School; Lily Waddell of the William S. Cohen School; Dennis Wescott, Norliana Menes, Jordyn Bennett, and Brooklyn Hutchins of Buckfield Jr/Sr High School; Sela R. Smith and Ben Buck of Dingo High School; Jacob Brown, Josie Champagne, and Tiana Gordon of Lawrence High School; Damian Sheffer, Cecilia Doering, Cannon Breen, and Trey Stimpel of Holbrook Middle School; Anderson Huston, Samantha Grandahl, and Alyssa Thompson of Monmouth Academy; Lauren Grant of Center Drive School; Katelyn Dufour, Nathalie Theriault, Madeline Tiner, Sydney Gosselin, Katelynn Green, Morgan Brousseau, Sarah Moody, and Bailee Kinney of Bruce M. Whittier Middle School; Ben Voter, Chandler Plante, Mariah Lancaster, Jaime Withrow, Abigail Stevens, Thomas Leo, and Emily Michaud of Skowhegan Area Middle School; and Jessica Doucette, Jenna Doucette, and Margaret Bragg of Hartford Sumner Elementary School.

These talented students and the history educators that support them are a testament to the creative and dynamic spirit of Maine. I look forward to hearing about their progress as they participate in the national contest at the University of Maryland, College Park from June 15-19, 2014.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating these students for their outstanding achievements and in wishing them the best of luck at the national competition.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
COLONEL LA'TONYA LYNN

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Colonel La'Tonya Lynn of

the U.S. Army for her extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our Nation. Colonel Lynn distinguished herself through exceptionally meritorious service from August 13, 2012 to June 20, 2014, while serving as the Chief of the Army House Liaison Division.

During this period of extraordinary change, continued combat operations in Afghanistan, significant fiscal constraints and challenges facing the Army, Colonel Lynn fostered a strategic partnership with both the 112th and 113th Congress. She clearly understood the importance of Congressional oversight and did a truly outstanding job managing some of the most complex issues the Army faced during the last three legislative cycles.

A native of Glen Burnie, Maryland, Colonel Lynn began her career in the Army in 1986. She was commissioned as a Military Police Officer upon graduation from Hampton University.

Her assignments include Chief, Prisoner Services; Platoon Leader; Assistant Operations Officer; Company Commander; Budget Officer; Executive Officer; Deputy Division Provost Marshal, 1st Armored Division; Division Provost Marshal, 1st Infantry Division, Operation Iraqi Freedom; Battalion Commander, 10th and 91st Military Police Battalions, Fort Drum, New York; Commander, Task Force Vigilant, Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan and Brigade Commander, 8th Military Police Brigade, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

She also served as Chief, Military Police Enlisted Branch, Human Resources Command and Executive Officer for the Director of Strategy, Plans and Policy, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G3/5/7, in the Pentagon.

Colonel Lynn has attended numerous Army and civilian schools and training programs. She earned a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from National Defense University (ICAF), a Master of Business Administration degree from Bowie State University, and a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Hampton University.

Colonel Lynn is an Army Airborne Paratrooper whose military awards include, among others, the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, multiple Kosovo Campaign Medals, multiple Afghanistan Campaign Medals, and Kuwait Liberation Medals. She received the Parachutist Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge and also earned the prestigious Military Police "Order of the Marechausee."

In light of her achievements, the Army has recognized her outstanding potential and has assigned her to serve as the Chief of the Ethics/Character Task Force at Headquarters, Department of the Army, Pentagon. Colonel Lynn's outstanding leadership, strategic vision, and keen judgment are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon her, the Office of the Army Legislative Liaison and the U.S. Army.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Colonel LaTonya Lynn as she proceeds to the next chapter in her remarkable career and continues to serve our great Nation.

## HONORING SHERYL AND AARON FLEISHAKER

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Sheryl and Aaron Fleishaker have long played a vital role in Beth El Synagogue of New Rochelle, New York.

From painting scenery for youth plays, to filling Mishloach Manot baskets for Purim, and helping to feed over 250 USYers at the last two Kinnusim hosted by Beth El, Sheryl has demonstrated her commitment to do whatever is necessary to support youth programs. She has served as the Youth Activities co-chair and PTA president for four years, and has been a member of the Board of Trustees.

Aaron has also demonstrated his commitment to Beth El throughout the years. He has served on the Board of Trustees for the last 15 years, and is finishing his third year as president. He previously served as vice president and executive vice president. Aaron serves on the Audit and Finance Committee, the Human Resources Committee, and the Fund Raising Committee.

Sheryl and Aaron are the honorees at the annual Beth El Synagogue Center Dinner Dance. They are truly deserving of this honor. I commend them for their years of service and for their commitment to Beth El and the greater Jewish community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheryl and Aaron Fleishaker for their vital contributions to Beth El Synagogue.

## HONORING SECRETARY JACK MARSH

### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Secretary of the Army John O. "Jack" Marsh, Jr., of Winchester, for being awarded the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation's Medal for Distinguished Public Service. I am proud to call Jack my good friend and pleased to join the Ford Foundation in honoring him for his long and distinguished service to our country.

After attending Washington and Lee University and practicing law in the Shenandoah Valley, Jack began his career in public service when he was elected as a Democrat to represent Virginia's 7th Congressional District in 1963. He later went on to serve as Assistant Secretary of Defense in 1973.

While serving in Congress, Jack met Congressman Gerald Ford, who was representing Michigan's 5th District as a Republican at the time. When Ford became Vice President to Richard Nixon, Jack was asked to serve as National Security Advisor and when Ford assumed the presidency in 1974, Jack became Counselor to the President—a cabinet-level post.

Later, under President Reagan, Jack was appointed Secretary of the Army, an office he held from 1981 until 1989. He is the longest serving Secretary of the Army in history.

The Medal for Distinguished Public Service is awarded annually to public servants who successfully demonstrate President Ford's leadership qualities over their career, and is reserved for a precious few. In receiving the Medal for Distinguished Public Service, Jack joins a special group of alumni, which includes prominent figures like Tip O'Neill, Henry Kissinger, John Paul Stevens and Brent Scowcroft.

I am pleased to submit the following article from the Winchester Star on Jack's achievements and thank my friend for his years of selfless service to our country.

[From The Winchester Star, June 3, 2014]

FORMER ARMY SECRETARY HONORED

(By Cynthia Cather Burton)

WINCHESTER.—Former Secretary of the Army John O. "Jack" Marsh Jr. of Winchester was awarded the 2014 Gerald R. Ford Medal for Distinguished Public Service on Monday.

The presentation took place during the annual dinner of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation at the Willard Inter-Continental Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Marsh, 87, joins a group of political, judicial and military luminaries who have received the award, which was established in 2003 by the foundation's board of trustees to recognize individuals "who reflect the qualities demonstrated by President Ford during his public service career," according to the foundation's website at [geraldrfordfoundation.org](http://geraldrfordfoundation.org). These include strength of character, integrity, trustworthiness, sound judgment, decisiveness (particularly during periods of crisis), determination in the face of adversity, diligence, self-confidence balanced with respect for the views of others, and self-discipline in personal life.

Past recipients are Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, 2013; Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, 2012; William T. Coleman, 2011; Henry Kissinger, 2010; Justice John Paul Stevens, 2009; Carla A. Hill, 2008; James A. Baker and Lee H. Hamilton, 2007; and the U.S. armed forces branches, 2006.

Marsh, a Winchester native, served as secretary of the Army under President Ronald Reagan from 1981 to 1989. Previously, in 1973, he was appointed assistant secretary of defense. In 1974, he became national security adviser for then-Vice President Ford.

During Ford's presidency, Marsh was counselor to the president and held cabinet rank.

"I handled a lot of issues that he directed me to do," Marsh said from his Winchester office on Monday afternoon. "I did whatever he wanted me to. My duties related in large measure to the Congress."

Marsh said he first met Ford when both were serving in the U.S. House of Representatives—Marsh represented Virginia's 7th District from 1963 to 1971 as a Democrat and Ford Michigan's 5th District from 1949 to 1973 as a Republican. They were introduced by Donald Rumsfeld, who would go on to serve as secretary of defense under Ford from 1975 to 1977 and President George W. Bush from 2001 to 2006.

"We were on different sides of the aisle, but we came to know one another," Marsh said of Ford. "When he became vice president, he asked me to be on his staff."

Following the resignation of President Richard M. Nixon in the wake of the Watergate scandal, Ford became the nation's 38th president, serving from 1974 to 1977.

Marsh said the presidency did not change Ford. "He was the same person."

With Watergate, the OPEC oil embargo against the United States, high unemployment and an unpopular war in Vietnam, Ford

inherited "a government that was in deep trouble," Marsh recalled. "These were issues that were very difficult to handle, and he handled them well. Part of that was because he was so close to the Congress. They respected him, and he respected them. . . He knew how the House worked."

Marsh noted that Ford "had more time in Congress than any president, before or since. He was very popular on both sides of the aisle. He was an example of cooperation."

Congress, Marsh added wryly, "was more bipartisan in those days."

He added that Ford was an "unflappable" leader. "Criticism didn't bother him. . . He never carried a grudge."

Marsh said he was honored to receive the Gerald R. Ford Medal for Distinguished Public Service "because it reflects a time in my life when I was party to and took part in a very critical time in our government."

Before his political career, Marsh practiced law in the Shenandoah Valley. He also was a World War II veteran and later served in the Army Reserve and Army National Guard. He was a graduate of Harrisonburg High School and Washington and Lee University.

#### GRAND OPENING OF THE CASEY JOYCE ALL AMERICA POST 4380

#### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the grand opening of the Casey Joyce All America Post 4380 in Plano, Texas. Plano Post 4380 was chartered on July 28, 1982, to provide support and aid to local veterans and to participate in neighborhood projects and functions in order to build strong ties to the community. On January 1, 2000, the Post was renamed Casey Joyce All America Post 4380; in memory of Sergeant Casey Joyce, an Army Ranger and graduate of Plano Senior High School who was killed in Mogadishu, Somalia, in 1993.

Over twenty years ago, Sergeant Joyce was one of the brave Rangers who put his life on the line to bring American pilots safely home after two U.S. Black Hawk helicopters were shot down. In the midst of the vicious battle, a fellow Ranger who fell from one of the helicopters was in critical condition—without immediate medical attention he would die. Fulfilling the Ranger Creed, Sergeant Joyce took it upon himself to "never leave a fallen comrade" behind. He proceeded towards enemy fire in search of a medivac vehicle and was killed in action. It's because of patriots like Sergeant Joyce that America remains the land of the free and home of the brave.

Renaming the Post to Casey Joyce All America Post 4380 will serve as a reminder to us all of the greatness of the American spirit, the unwavering courage of our servicemen, and their commitment to service before self. Some of the post's contributions include the Casey Joyce Memorial Four Year Scholarship and the Voice of Democracy Scholarship Award given to young, bright, and talented students who want to pursue a higher education. Post members also provide leadership, guidance, and other awards to the Plano ISD JROTC Program. Post members volunteer their time to the Samaritan Inn Shelter and Hope's Door Domestic Violence Counseling Center. Their contribution to our North Texas community goes unmatched.

Our Nation owes a debt of gratitude and support for all the achievements performed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and for the 32 years of service that the Casey Joyce All America Post 4380 has provided to the North Texas community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the grand opening of the post and thanking all of the members for continuing their legacy of selfless service. Keep up the good work! God Bless you.

#### HONORING JACOB DEAN MITCHELL

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Dean Mitchell. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 92, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Dean Mitchell for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HONORING LOGAN WAYNE CALDWELL

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Logan Wayne Caldwell. Logan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 167, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Logan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Logan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Logan has earned the rank of Brave in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Logan has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Logan restored the dilapidated pillars in front of the Winston School and placed the original stones from the classes of 1929 and 1930 back into the pillars.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Logan Wayne Caldwell for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

#### HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2014*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4745) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chair, I rise to express my appreciation for all the good work that has gone into in the FY 2015 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill. I know a lot of difficult decisions had to be made but I wanted to express my concern over a \$20 million reduction in funding for the Maritime Security Program (MSP).

The U.S. flag fleet is critical to our military in delivering cargo overseas to our military to ensure proper readiness and sustainment. The Department of Defense (DOD) for well over a decade has relied on MSP-enrolled vessels for sealift of necessary cargo into conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as other troubled areas in the world, all at a fraction of the cost of what it would cost DOD to replicate that sealift if it had to build its own vessels. These military-sensitive cargoes are handled by U.S.-flag ship operators and mariners that must meet DOD and homeland security standards. They have a demonstrated record of delivering these cargoes efficiently and safely.

I would like to encourage the bill's managers to bring the program's funding level to \$186 million in conference with the Senate. This program also has significant support from House members and I am including a letter signed by members in support of this funding. Finally this is the same amount appropriated in FY 2014, authorized by the Armed Services Committee in the NDAA, and requested by the President.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, March, 2014.

Hon. TOM LATHAM,  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. ED PASTOR,  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LATHAM AND RANKING MEMBER PASTOR: We are writing to request that \$186 million in funding for FY 2015 for the Maritime Security Program (MSP) be included in the FY 2015 appropriations bill for the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies. This is the congressionally authorized amount necessary to ensure that the U.S. Maritime Administration, in conjunction with the Department of Defense, has the necessary funds available to fully implement the MSP. It is the same amount appropriated by Congress for the program in FY 2014.

The MSP was originally enacted to ensure that the United States has the U.S.-flag

commercial sealift capability and trained U.S. citizen merchant mariners available to crew the government and privately owned vessels needed by the Department of Defense in time of war or other international emergency. Most importantly, the Maritime Security Program and the uninterrupted operation of its maritime security fleet of 60 U.S.-flag militarily useful commercial vessels ensures that America will in fact be able to support and supply our troops overseas. It guarantees that American-flag vessels and American crews will continue to be available to transport the supplies and equipment our troops need to do their job in behalf of our nation.

Failure to approve the requested funding for the Maritime Security Program not only will put American troops at risk but will weaken America's overall security interests and will cost the American taxpayer significantly more than the amount requested for FY 2015 for the MSP. Without having the MSP and its maritime security fleet to rely upon, the options available to the Department of Defense and to our country to meet America's commercial sealift capability requirements are totally unacceptable.

On the one hand, our country would be faced with the option of giving foreign-flag shipping interests and their foreign mariners—interests who may not share America's goals, objectives and values—the responsibility for supporting and advancing America's security interests overseas. These foreign-flag shipping services will have to be paid for by the United States, and it means our country will be encouraging the outsourcing of American maritime jobs as we spend taxpayer dollars on foreign-flag ships and their foreign crews.

On the other hand, our country would be faced with the option of having the Department of Defense build, maintain, and operate the requisite vessels itself, at a tremendous cost to the American taxpayer. In fact, a 2006 report prepared for the National Defense Transportation Association—Military Sealift Committee concluded that “the likely cost to the government to replicate just the vessel capacity provided by the MSP dry cargo vessels would be \$13 billion.” In addition, the United States Transportation Command has estimated that it would cost the U.S. Government an additional \$52 billion to replicate the “global intermodal system” that is made available to the Department of Defense by MSP participants who are continuously developing, maintaining, and upgrading their systems. In contrast, the commercial maritime industry, through the MSP, will provide the Department of Defense with these same vessels and global intermodal system at a cost to the taxpayer of \$186 million in FY 2015, a fraction of what it would cost our government to do the job itself.

In other words, without funding the MSP and ensuring the continued operation of its maritime security fleet, America would either have to place the safety of our troops and the security of our nation in the hands of foreign shipping interests or be forced to spend billions of dollars more of the taxpayers' dollars to achieve the commercial sealift capability that will be lost if the requested funds for MSP are not appropriated.

During congressional consideration of the reauthorization of the MSP in 2003, General John W. Handy, then-Commander in Chief, United States Transportation Command, told Congress that: “As we look at operations on multiple fronts in support of the War on Terrorism, it is clear that our limited defense resources will increasingly rely on partnerships with industry to maintain the needed capability and capacity to meet our most demanding wartime scenarios . . .

MSP is a cost-effective program that assures guaranteed access to required U.S.-flag commercial shipping and U.S. merchant mariners when needed . . . MSP is a vital element of our military's strategic sealift and global response capability.”

We again ask that you support this highly efficient and low-cost public-private partnership by including \$186 million in your Subcommittee's FY 2015 appropriations legislation in order to fully implement the MSP. In so doing, you will be saving the American taxpayer billions of dollars because the Department of Defense will be able to utilize privately owned U.S.-flag vessels to meet its commercial sealift requirements rather than buying and maintaining this capability on its own.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

HOWARD P. “BUCK” McKEON,

*Chairman,*

*Committee on Armed Services.*

ADAM SMITH,

*Ranking Member,*

*Committee on Armed Services.*

Duncan Hunter; Corrine Brown; Scott Peters; Frank LoBiondo; Elijah Cummings; Nick Rahall; Bennie Thompson; John Garamendi; John Duncan; Don Young.

Dutch Ruppersberger; Gary Miller; Rick Larsen; Randy Forbes; Robert Wittman; Derek Kilmer; Jim Brindenshtine; Scott Rigell; Peter King; Leonard Lance.

Suzanne Bonamici; Carol Shea-Porter; Michael Michaud; Daniel Lipinski; Suzan DelBene; Michael Grimm; Frederica Wilson; Cedric Richmond; Sean Maloney; Chris Gibson.

William Enyart; David Joyce; Brian Higgins; Linda Sánchez; Howard Coble; Paul Cook; Janice Hahn; David McKinley; Tim Bishop; Jim McDermott.

Joe Courtney; Steve Israel; Michael Turner; Alan Lowenthal; Tulsi Gabbard; Denny Heck; Marc Veasey; Lois Frankel; Madeleine Bordallo; Albio Sires.

Peter DeFazio; Karen Bass; Pete Gallego; Rick Nolan; Tim Walz; Ed Perlmutter; Ron Barber; André Carson.

HONORING JACOB ALAN CROUSE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Alan Crouse. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 309, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has led his troops as Junior Scoutmaster. Jacob has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project by building a picnic shelter for his church.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Alan Crouse for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of Amer-

ica and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING TY MICHAEL  
KIXMILLER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ty Michael Kixmiller. Ty is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ty has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ty has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Ty has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and is a Brotherhood Member of the Order of the Arrow. Ty has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Ty renovated and landscaped Lion's Park in Kearney, Missouri, rehabilitating the front signage, replacing the park grills and mulching the entire park.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ty Michael Kixmiller for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL,  
AND TRANSGENDER (LBGT)  
PRIDE MONTH

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP OF STATE  
REPRESENTATIVE JOE SAUNDERS

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize State Representative Joe Saunders. Representative Saunders was elected to the Florida House on November 6, 2012 to serve House District 49 in East Orange County, and made history as one of Florida's first openly gay state lawmakers.

A graduate of the University of Central Florida's Political Science, Women's Studies, and Legal Studies programs, Joe began his political work as a community organizer on campus. As a campus leader, Joe fought for environmental protections, affordable tuition rates, and stronger anti-discrimination policies. He also ran civic engagement programs to register and empower young voters.

After graduating in 2005, Joe began working for Equality Florida, a statewide civil rights group dedicated to educating and advocating for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. Over the past ten years, he has led coalitions that have won non-discrimination

protections for over 1.5 million people in Central Florida. Joe was also a key leader in the 2008 passage of the Jeffrey Johnston Stand Up for All Students Act, Florida's first anti-bullying law.

In addition to his legislative duties, Representative Saunders currently serves as the Director of Civic Engagement for the Equality Florida Institute where he works to register and engage progressive voters in the political process. He also directs the Equality Florida Institute's Equality Means Business program where he works to improve Florida's national and international reputation by spotlighting major employers in Florida who are leading the way on inclusion and diversity.

Joe has held leadership roles with Planned Parenthood of Greater Orlando, the Central Florida Disability Chamber of Commerce, Orange County Democratic Executive Committee, and was a board member at Mad Cow Theatre.

A respected leader in arts education, for several years Joe has chaired the Osceola Arts for a Complete Education Coalition which advocates for quality arts education in K–12 public schools. He is a member of "The Circle" coalition for the Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center and a past board member for the arts education non-profit, Applause Academy. Recognizing Joe's contributions, the Florida Alliance for Arts Education awarded him with their 2013 Leadership Award.

During the 2013 and 2014 legislative session, Rep. Saunders filed the Florida Competitive Workforce Act which would ban employment and housing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. The bi-partisan bill earned 35 co-sponsors including 10 Republicans.

Rep. Saunders serves on the House Education Committee, Higher Education and Workforce Subcommittee, Health Quality Subcommittee and is the Ranking Democratic member of the Choice and Innovation Subcommittee.

I am happy to honor Representative Joe Saunders, during LGBT Pride Month, for his leadership and service to the Central Florida community.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MICHAEL SLAYMAKER

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize Michael Slaymaker. Michael has a phenomenal record of success in his career as a fundraising professional and a gay rights advocate. Whether the nonprofit organization was large or small, Michael's knowledge, skills, abilities, and dedication to the mission of these organizations earned the same results—he doubled the fundraising revenues, in some cases increased the revenues ten-fold. During his career, Michael Slaymaker has generated over \$33 million for nonprofit organizations.

Michael started out as a volunteer fundraiser for the Orlando Gay Chorus (OGC) in August 1998, but was quickly hired as a part time contract employee to help the small arts organization. During his tenure, he helped OGC increase their annual budget from \$28,000 to \$189,000. Raising funds for a gay organization in Orlando was a challenge, but Michael's commitment to diversity and his belief in the chorus' vision to use music to change images and attitudes, build a stronger community, and make the world a better place

created a tremendous impact. Many local arts organization in Orlando have closed their doors, but due to the ten years of success from Michael's fundraising efforts, OGC continues to entertain audiences and remain solvent.

Orlando Youth Alliance (OYA) provides a safe space for Central Florida gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning teenagers through support groups, and social, educational, and recreational activities, so that none of the youth will ever feel that suicide is the answer. In 2007, Michael Slaymaker became the volunteer Board President. Although the organization was founded in 1990, it took Michael's leadership and knowledge to secure a 501(c)(3) designation and take this tiny nonprofit organization to new levels. Michael strengthened the board and volunteer structure and increased the number of chapters, so that the number of youth being served could increase significantly. Michael serves as the main volunteer fundraiser and leader today. He has increased their annual campaign from \$1,900 to a high of \$49,000 for this all-volunteer organization. Over the past 25 years, OYA has impacted the lives of 1,300 young people and not a single one has committed suicide.

After being denied a job by a local non-profit because he was gay, Michael recruited a group of volunteers to change local ordinances and policies to make sure what happened to him would never happen to anyone else. In April, 2000, Michael founded the Orlando Anti-Discrimination Ordinance Committee (OADO). The mission of OADO is to secure protection for Central Florida residents from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and expression. Under Michael's leadership, drive, and direction the group has amended or updated a staggering 15 ordinances and policies in Orange County, Florida.

I am happy to honor Michael Slaymaker, during LGBT Pride Month, for his contributions to the Central Florida community.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF RANDY STEPHENS

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize Randy Stephens. Raised in rural Alabama by blue collar parents, Randy learned activism at an early age. Both parents were officials with local unions and were role models for employee activism. The picket line was Randy's childhood playground. Upon graduation from Talladega High School, Randy attended Auburn University where he became involved in student government. His interest in government grew while attending Cumberland School of Law from which he graduated in 1981.

After serving as staff attorney for Justice Eric Embry of the Alabama Supreme Court, Randy took a position with the Alabama Education Association (AEA). While serving as attorney and lobbyist, Randy worked on influencing politics by using a statewide network of teachers and support personnel in local campaigns. As a result, AEA was a dominant voice in state politics for decades.

Looking for a change, Randy relocated to Florida in 1992. The activist in him began to get restless. He became involved in, and later chaired, the Rainbow Democratic Club and became the GLBT Democratic Caucus's Region Director for Central Florida. Randy helped lay the groundwork for identifying and reg-

istering LGBT persons in Orange County. Thousands of members of the community were registered, giving the community increased influence in many local and statewide elections. Randy also served as a member of the Orlando Anti-Discrimination Ordinance Committee (OADO) which successfully championed for equality rights in both the City of Orlando and the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

Randy has served as the Executive Director of the GLBT Community Center of Central Florida for the past four years. During this time "The Center" has become a vital part of the GLBT Community, hosting numerous Town Hall meetings and providing the community with useful information on issues like marriage equality. Also, during Randy's tenure, The Center expanded its HIV testing hours, becoming the first center in Florida to test seven days a week and one of the largest HIV testing centers in the state.

Recently married to his partner, Thomas Berthier, Randy anticipates the overturning of the remaining sections of the Defense of Marriage Act and the Florida ban on same sex marriage. Randy always looks for ways to ensure equality for all.

I am happy to honor Randy Stephens, during LGBT Pride Month, for his contributions to the Central Florida community.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MARIA RUIZ MARGENOT

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize Maria Ruiz Margenot. Born in Cuba during Castro's Revolution, Maria witnessed the debilitating effect of a culture robbed of its freedoms, rights, and voice. Her parents, Victor and Rosaura Ruiz, at immense personal sacrifice, took their young children and fled political oppression. Upon arriving in the United States, her family was classified as political refugees and they were able to obtain green cards.

Maria's family began anew at the Jersey shore. From her experience as a refugee, Maria learned to value the right to vote, to speak out, and to seek social justice.

Maria moved to South Florida, where she found her niche in the hospitality industry, as well as a large community of Cuban exiles. There, she was able to raise her daughter, Ashley, and experienced and embraced both her Cuban and American heritage.

Through passion and commitment, Maria has become a formidable leader in both her industry and community. She is an instrumental figure at Wyndham Vacation Ownership, one of the most recognized and respected hospitality companies in the world. She serves as Senior Vice President of Sales Development, Recruiting and Training. Maria has impacted her company by fostering a culture of inclusion and diversity. She has championed diversity efforts to ensure everyone will feel accepted and valued in the workplace. As a result of employees like Maria, Wyndham Vacation Ownership is consistently named a Best Place to Work for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Equality.

As her company's highest-ranking Hispanic woman, she was the founding executive sponsor of FUERTE!, a Hispanic employee resource group. Maria has shared her personal story through WynPride, her company's group for LGBT employees and straight allies. Her work isn't confined to the walls of her office



building, as she's a strong voice for the LGBT population in the business community.

Maria volunteers for the Human Rights Campaign and serves as Fed Club co-chair. She's a member of various civic groups, such as Equality Florida, 100 Women Strong, the Florida Diversity Council, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando, MBA Orlando, and NCLR (National Council of La Raza). Following in her mother's footsteps as a strong supporter of organizations committed to women's reproductive health, she also serves on the board of Planned Parenthood of Greater Orlando.

Maria has represented Wyndham Worldwide at the Top 50 Latina Women Award at the White House, has received the Multicultural Leadership Award from the Florida Diversity Council, and has been recognized as Woman of the Year by the National Professional Women's Association.

I am happy to honor Maria Ruiz Margenot, during LGBT Pride Month, for her contributions to the Central Florida community.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MARY MEEKS

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize Mary Meeks. As a child Mary learned fearlessness from her mother, Syble Meeks, who taught her to recognize injustice and stand up for herself and others. Even back then Mary knew she wanted to be an attorney and when she grew up and entered law school, civil rights and constitutional law became her passion and life's work.

Mary has practiced law in Central Florida since 1988, where she has represented individuals, small business owners, and Fortune 500 companies for over 26 years. But nothing has been more important or gratifying to her than fighting and dismantling discrimination, whether on behalf of a client or on behalf of an entire community.

Currently, Mary is a member of the legal team representing six plaintiff couples and Equality Florida who have filed a historic lawsuit challenging Florida's two state statutes and state constitutional amendment which ban marriage equality. She is honored to be working alongside Shannon Minter of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, the most influential attorney in the national LGBT rights movement, to bring marriage equality to Florida.

Mary has worked extensively with municipal and state government to write and advocate for legislation to legally protect LGBT individuals, couples, and families in Florida. Her work has resulted in numerous Human Rights Ordinances and Domestic Partnership Registries, and a multitude of Employee Benefits being implemented throughout the state. Mary co-authored the 2012 Orlando/Orange County Domestic Partnership Registry Ordinance which became model legislation for other local communities in Florida. She is also the co-author of Florida Senate and House Bills which have been introduced to create a statewide domestic partnership registry to provide important legal protections to same-sex couples no matter where they live or travel.

Mary has served the LGBT and wider community in many leadership positions, including serving on the Boards of the National LGBT Bar Foundation, the Central Florida ACLU Legal Panel, the Orlando Anti-Discrimination Ordinance Committee, the Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers, the Central

Florida Gay and Lesbian Law Association, and Equality Florida's Central Florida Steering Committee. Mary has taught Employment Discrimination Law and Florida Civil Practice as an Adjunct Professor at Barry University School of Law, and has served as a consultant to The Orlando Business Journal and The Orlando Sentinel on employment issues.

Mary is a frequent speaker and author on employment and civil rights issues. Her column, "Living Loud," is featured regularly in The Watermark, Florida's statewide LGBT publication. Mary and her wife, Vicki Nantz, have produced a series of acclaimed documentaries on social justice subjects and have traveled together throughout the state advocating for equality.

I am happy to honor Mary Meeks, during LGBT Pride Month, for her contributions to the Central Florida community.

#### HONORING JACOB TODD HILEY

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Todd Hiley. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, has become a Brotherhood Member in the Order of the Arrow and currently serves as his troops' Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. Jacob has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jacob built a storage mezzanine in the bus barn for First United Methodist Church of Kearney.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Todd Hiley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HONORING CHRISTIAN POLOVICH

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christian Polovich. Christian is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 404, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most no-

tably, Christian has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and serves as his troops' Senior Patrol Leader. Christian has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Christian constructed a workout station on the fitness trail on the campus of A. T. Still University in Kirksville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christian Polovich for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 29, 2014, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 243, "nay"; on rollcall No. 244, "yea"; on rollcall No. 245, "yea"; on rollcall No. 246, "yea"; on rollcall No. 247, "nay"; on rollcall No. 248, "nay"; on rollcall No. 249, "nay"; on rollcall No. 250, "nay"; on rollcall No. 251, "nay"; on rollcall No. 252, "yea"; on rollcall No. 253, "nay"; on rollcall No. 254, "nay"; on rollcall No. 255, "yea"; on rollcall No. 256, "yea"; on rollcall No. 257, "nay"; on rollcall No. 258, "nay"; on rollcall No. 259, "yea"; on rollcall No. 260, "nay"; on rollcall No. 261, "yea"; on rollcall No. 262, "nay"; on rollcall No. 263, "nay"; on rollcall No. 264, "yea"; on rollcall No. 265, "yea"; on rollcall No. 266, "yea"; on rollcall No. 267, "yea"; on rollcall No. 268, "nay"; on rollcall No. 269, "yea."

#### HONORING SULLIVAN J. EASLEY

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sullivan J. Easley. Sully is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 391, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Sully has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Sully has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Sully has led his troops as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Sully has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Sully organized and constructed six bird houses in four different parks. He also led a team in building new trails along a new expansion in a nature preserve for the Friends of Webster Trails organization near Rochester, New York.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sullivan J. Easley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.